

OPINION 1577

***Hydrobius* Leach, 1815 (Insecta, Coleoptera): *Dytiscus fuscipes* Linnaeus, 1758 conserved as type species, and *Berosus* Leach, 1817 (Insecta, Coleoptera): conserved**

Ruling

(1) Under the plenary powers all fixations of type species for the nominal genus *Hydrobius* Leach, 1815 are hereby set aside, and the designation by Hope (1838) of *Dytiscus fuscipes* Linnaeus, 1758 as the type species is conserved.

(2) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology:

- (a) *Hydrobius* Leach, 1815 (gender: masculine), type species by subsequent designation by Hope (1838) *Dytiscus fuscipes* Linnaeus, 1758, as conserved in (1) above;
- (b) *Berosus* Leach, 1817 (gender: masculine), type species by monotypy *Dytiscus luridus* Linnaeus, 1761.

(3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:

- (a) *fuscipes* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Dytiscus fuscipes* (specific name of the type species of *Hydrobius* Leach, 1815);
- (b) *luridus* Linnaeus, 1761, as published in the binomen *Dytiscus luridus* (specific name of the type species of *Berosus* Leach, 1817).

History of Case 2607

An application for the conservation of *Dytiscus fuscipes* Linnaeus, 1758 as the type species of the water beetle genus *Hydrobius* Leach, 1815, so also conserving *Berosus* Leach, 1817, was received from Dr M. Hansen (*Zoologisk Museum, København, Denmark*) on 11 May 1987 and published in BZN 45: 25–26 (March 1988). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals. No comments were received.

‘*D. luridus* Leach, 1761’ on the first line of para. 6 on p. 25 should be amended to read ‘*D. luridus* Linnaeus, 1761’.

It would have been possible to achieve the result sought by Dr Hansen (conservation of the usage of *Hydrobius* and *Berosus* described in para. 6) by using the plenary powers to suppress *Hydrobius* as of Leach, 1815 for both the Principles of Priority and Homonymy and to take the name from Leach, 1817. Dr Hansen did not ask for this; *Hydrobius* is always given the date 1815 (cf. para. 4), and Dr Hansen’s proposal to accept this date has advantages. However, since *Dytiscus fuscipes* was not included in 1815, proposals (1) and (2) on p. 26 were amended on the voting papers to read:

‘(1) to use its plenary powers to set aside all previous fixations of type species for the nominal genus *Hydrobius* Leach, 1815 and to conserve the designation of *Dytiscus fuscipes* Linnaeus, 1758 by Hope (1838);

‘(2) (a) *Hydrobius* Leach, 1815 (gender: masculine), type species by subsequent designation by Hope (1838), as conserved in (1) above, *Dytiscus fuscipes* Linnaeus, 1758.’

Decision of the Commission

On 1 September 1989 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 45: 26, as amended above. At the close of the voting period on 1 December 1989 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 24: Bayer, Bock, Cocks, Cogger, Corliss, Hahn, Halvorsen, Heppell, Holthuis, Kabata, Kraus, Macpherson, Mahnert, Martins de Souza, Minelli, Mroczkowski, Nielsen, Nye, Ride, Schuster, Starobogatov, Trjapitzin, Uéno, Willink

Negative votes — 2: Savage and Thompson.

Dupuis and Lehtinen abstained. Savage commented that he would have favoured dating *Hydrobius* from 1817. Thompson said that there was insufficient evidence in the application to decide whether use of the plenary powers was justified.

Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on Official Lists by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

Berosus Leach, 1817, *The zoological miscellany*, vol. 3, p. 92.

fuscipes, *Dytiscus*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Systema Naturae*, Ed. 10, vol. 1, p. 411.

Hydrobius Leach, 1815, in Brewster, *Edinburgh Encyclopaedia*, vol. 9, p. 96.

luridus, *Dytiscus*, Linnaeus, 1761, *Fauna Svecica*, Ed. 2, p. 214.